

*Eleventh Court
of Appeals*

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

AUSTIN, TEXAS,
March 29, 1923.

Hon. S. L. Staples
Secretary of State
Capitol Building
Austin, Texas

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I file herewith, together with my veto, Senate Bill No. 244, Against a seeming legislative mania for creating new courts, that are not needed, I enter this my twelfth veto and disapproval. We have had for years in Texas too many courts. Instead of creating new courts, a considerable number of those we now have should have been abolished. The new courts created by the last Legislature will cost the tax-payers of Texas approximately a quarter of a million dollars annually. While our new courts, with their attendant officers, are spending this money, a majority of the old courts, if we judge the future by the past, will be idle half the time. This large annual cost will be a constant burden to the people, because when a court or an office of any kind has once been created, it seems almost impossible to ever get rid of it. This bill herewith vetoed provides for the Eleventh Court of Civil Appeals, the Legislature having recently passed over my veto, as it did many other court bills, a bill creating the Tenth Court of Civil Appeals. We have had for years in Texas nine courts of civil appeals, composed of three judges each. As long as these twenty-seven judges work only

nine months during the year, as they now do, and as long as they render decisions on less than one case a week per judge, as they now do, according to records furnished me, I shall not add my name in approval to a bill creating another similar court. There is no excuse, viewed from many angles, for all of the courts created by the last Legislature. I therefore, again, and for the twelfth time, herewith file my protest against such a foolish and fruitless expenditure of the people's money. You will therefore file this bill, together with this my veto, in your office as provided by law.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be "D. M. Jeff", written in a cursive style.

Governor